University of California, Berkeley Physics H7C Fall 2002 (*Strovink*)

PROBLEM SET 10

1. Bernstein 9-29.

2. Bernstein 9-33.

3. Bernstein 10-3.

4. Bernstein 10-10.

5. Bernstein 10-14.

6.

N electrons each of mass m are confined within a (formerly) cubic infinite potential well that has been "squashed" almost flat in two of its three dimensions: V = 0 for (0 < x < L) and $0 < y < \epsilon L$ and $0 < z < \epsilon L$), $V = \infty$ otherwise. Here $\epsilon \ll 1$ (cube is "squashed" in the y and z directions) and $N \gg 1$. The electrons do not interact with each other and are at very low temperature so that they fill up the available states in order of increasing energy. Take $\epsilon N \ll 1$, so that the y and z parts of each electron's wavefunction may be assumed to be the same (lowest possible k_y and k_z). Thus the problem is reduced to one dimension. Calculate the difference Δ between the energy of the most energetic electron (Fermi energy) and the energy of a ground state electron, using the approximation $N \gg 1$. Δ should depend on m, N, and L, but not ϵ .

7.

Write an integral equation for the fraction \mathcal{F} of nonrelativistic fermions in a one-dimensional gas (as in the previous problem) at finite temperature T which have energy above the Fermi energy E_F . The density of states is proportional to $E^{-1/2}$ and the probability that a state

is occupied is

$$\frac{1}{\exp\left(\beta(E-E_F)\right)+1}$$

where $\beta = (kT)^{-1}$. You don't need to perform the integration, but you should set up the integral so that doing it would yield the correct answer without any additional physical reasoning.

8. Bernstein 10-27.